

Administration: Electronic FOIA Request Detail

**Thank you** for your Freedom of Information Act Information Request. Within the next four weeks we will notify you of either how long the search will take to complete or the availability of the information you requested.

**Request Number:** 20090513112125  
**Name:** Richard I Smith  
**Organization:** Hanford Advisory Board  
**Address:**  
**Country:** United States  
**Phone Number:**  
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**Reasonably Describe Records**

**Description:** RPP-21852 Hanford Shipping Facility Feasibility Study

**Optional Information**

**Describe Yourself:** An individual seeking information for personal use and not for commercial use.

**Cost Information:** I request a waiver or reduction of fees.

**Waiver Request:**

The subject of the request: Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government."

This report contains the analyses used to select the configuration of the on-site storage system for canisters of vitrified HLW wastes. DOE is proceeding toward facility design without any public review of the selected system. Choice of the future storage system will affect future capital costs and system operations costs.

The informative value of the information to be disclosed: Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

Because the document is classified OUO, members of the public are excluded from knowledge of which storage system alternatives were examined, and the depth to which the analyses were carried out. Because the canister storage system will involve several hundreds of millions of dollars over its lifetime, it is important that the public have an opportunity to review and comment on the analyses and selection process employed in this report.

The contribution to an understanding by the general public of the subject likely to result from disclosure, taking into account your ability and intent to disseminate the information to the public in a form that can further understanding of the subject matter.

For the Hanford Advisory Board to provide useful advice to DOE, it is essential that the HAB fully understand DOE's programmatic decisions, and the studies and analyses underlying those decisions.

The significance of the contribution to public understanding: Whether the disclosure is likely to contribute "significantly" to public understanding of government operations or activities.

Review of this report may (or may not) raise questions about the appropriateness of DOE's current decision to design and build the Hanford Shipping Facility, and could affect the design of the load-out portion of the HLW melter facility, presently under construction. Because of the construction status of the HLW facility, any changes to that facility need to be designed immediately, to avoid more costly modifications in the future.

The existence and magnitude of a commercial interest: Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure, and, if so

n/a

The primary interest in disclosure: Whether the magnitude of the identified commercial interest of the requester is sufficiently large, in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester."

n/a

**Waiver Cost Information:** I agree to pay  
\$1.00

**Expedited Processing:**

n/a

n/a

Because of the current status of construction on the HLW melter facility, a change in the selected path forward on HLW canister storage systems could require modification of the design of the load-out area of that facility. Modifications now would be relatively easy, modifications later could become more difficult and costly.